



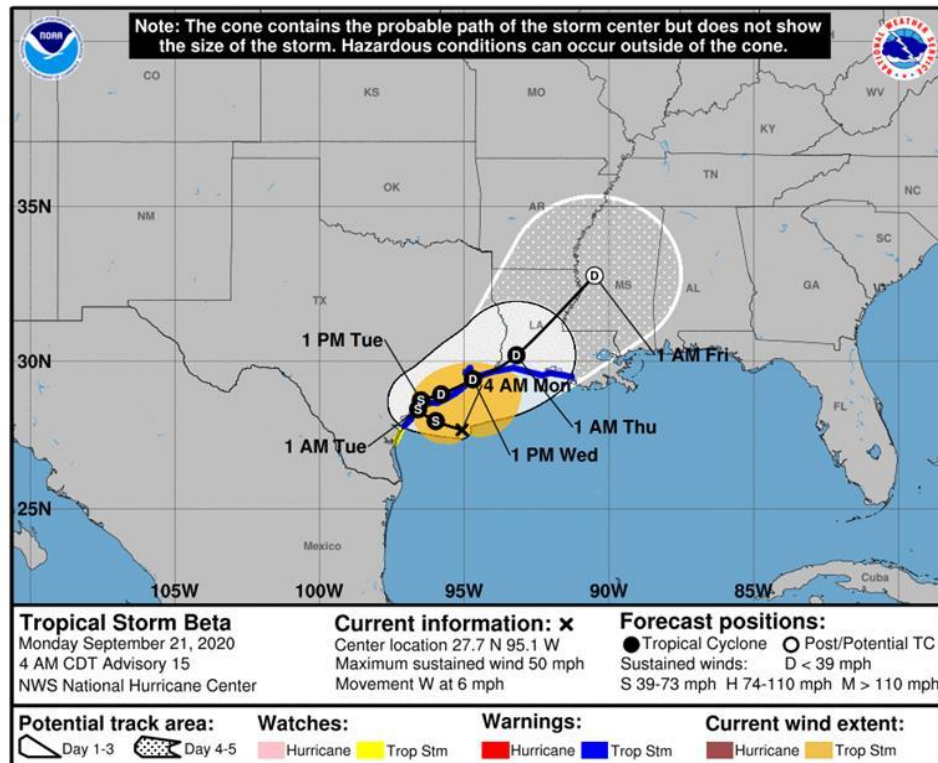
Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	20-0014 September Tropical Weather
Date	September 21, 2020
Time	0800
Operational Period	September 20 - September 21, 2020
Report Number	2

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	2,3,6
DDCs Active	17, 20

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: Tropical Storm Beta is expected to produce tropical storm conditions over portions of the Texas Coast later this morning.



Summary of 4:00 AM CDT information.
Center Location 27.7 N 95.1W
Maximum Sustained Winds 50 MPH
Movement W 6 MPH

Summary of Watches and Warnings in effect:

A Storm Surge Warning is in effect for:

* Port Aransas, Texas to Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, Louisiana, including Copano Bay, Aransas Bay, San Antonio Bay, Matagorda Bay, Galveston Bay, Sabine Lake, and Lake Calcasieu.

A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for:

* Port Aransas Texas to Morgan City Louisiana

A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for:

* Baffin Bay to Port Aransas Texas

Discussion and Outlook

At 4:00 AM CDT, the center of Tropical Storm Beta was located near latitude 27.7 North, longitude 95.1 West. Beta is moving toward the west near 6 mph (9 km/h) and this general motion is forecast to continue for the next day or so. A decrease in forward speed and a sharp turn to the north and northeast is expected on Tuesday. On the forecast track, the center of Beta will continue to move toward the central coast of Texas and will likely move inland by tonight. Beta is forecast to remain close to the coast of southeastern Texas on Tuesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 50 mph (85 km/h) with higher gusts. Little change in strength is forecast before Beta reaches the Texas coast. Weakening is anticipated once Beta moves inland.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 175 miles (280 km) from the center. NOAA buoy 42019, just northwest of the center of Beta, recently reported sustained winds of 40 mph (65 km/h) and a gust to 47 mph (76 km/h).

The estimated minimum central pressure is 996 mb (29.42 inches).

Hazards Affecting Land

Storm Surge: The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline. The water could reach the following heights above ground somewhere in the indicated areas if the peak surge occurs at the time of high tide:

- San Luis Pass, TX to Sabine Pass, TX including Galveston Bay 3-5 ft.
- Port Aransas, TX to San Luis Pass, TX including Copano Bay, Aransas Bay, San Antonio Bay, and Matagorda Bay 2-4 ft.
- Sabine Pass, TX to Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, LA including Sabine Lake and Calcasieu Lake 2-4 ft.

- Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, LA to Ocean Springs, MS including Vermilion Bay, Lake Borgne, Lake Pontchartrain, and Lake Maurepas 1-3 ft.
- Baffin Bay, TX to Port Aransas, TX including Corpus Christi Bay and Baffin Bay 1-3 ft.
- Mouth of the Rio Grande to Baffin Bay, TX...1-2 ft

The deepest water will occur along the immediate coast in areas of onshore winds, where the surge will be accompanied by large and dangerous waves. Surge-related flooding depends on the relative timing of the surge and the tidal cycle, and can vary greatly over short distances. For information specific to your area, please see products issued by your local National Weather Service forecast office.

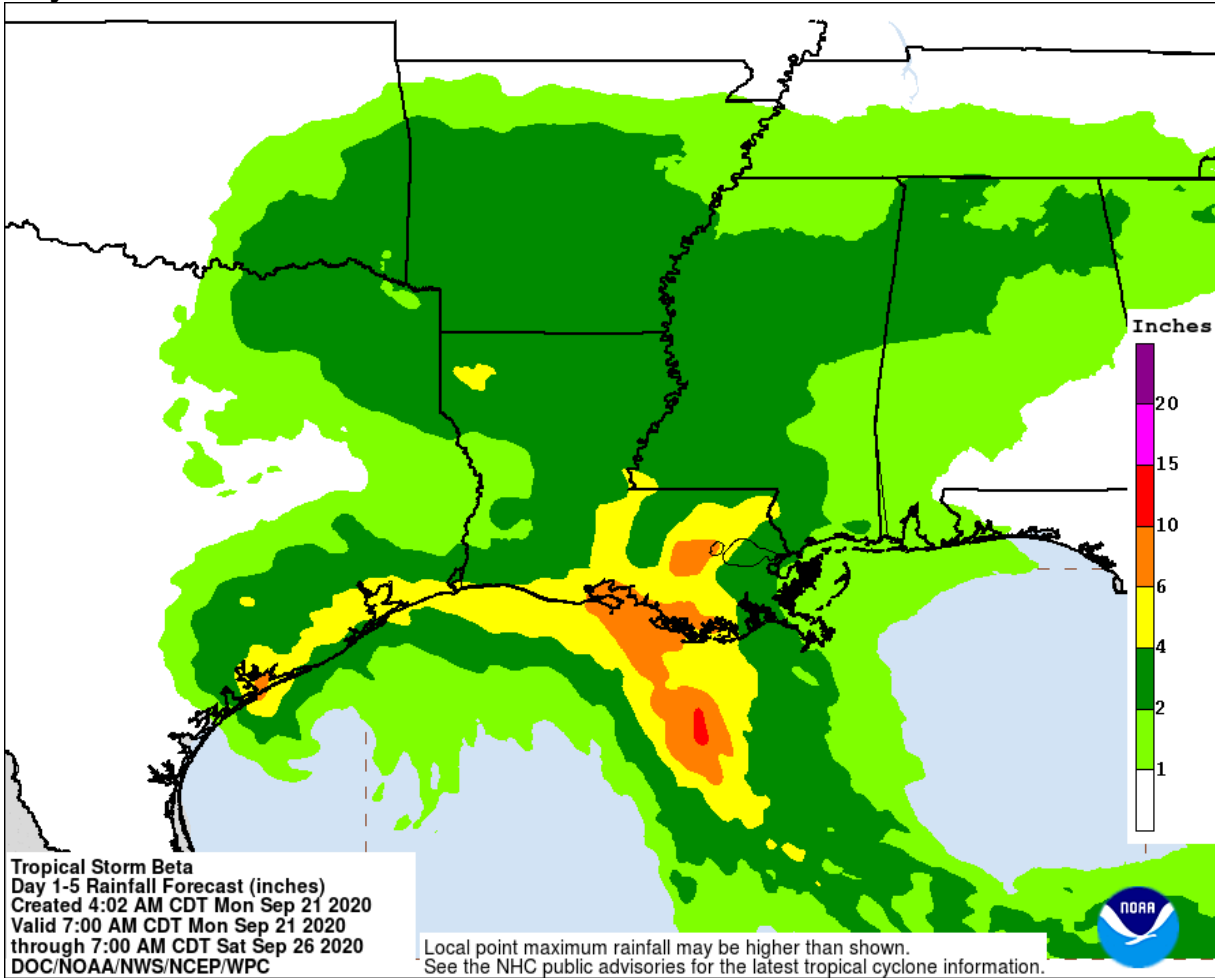
Wind: Tropical storm conditions are expected to begin later this morning in portions of the tropical storm warning area. Tropical storm conditions are possible within the tropical storm watch area later today.

Rainfall: Through Friday, Beta is expected to produce rainfall accumulations of 5 to 10 inches with isolated totals of 15 inches from the middle Texas coast to southeast Louisiana. Rainfall totals of 3 to 5 inches are expected northward into the ArkLaTex region and east into the Lower Mississippi Valley through the end of the week. Flash and urban flooding is likely, as well as isolated minor river flooding.

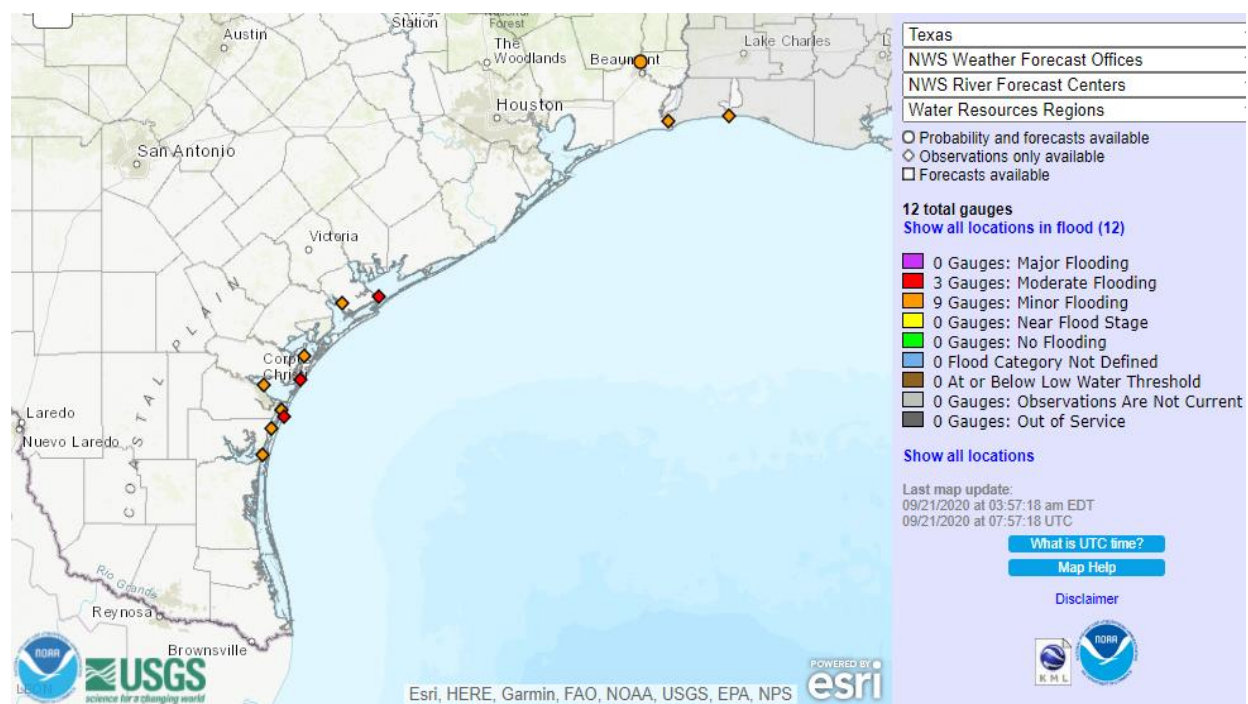
Tornadoes: A tornado or two could occur today and tonight, near the middle to upper Texas coast or the southwestern Louisiana coast.

Surf: Swells generated by a combination of Beta and cold front over the northern Gulf of Mexico will continue along the coasts of Louisiana and Texas during the next couple of days. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

5 Day Rainfall Forecast



Local Flood Gages



On 9/18/20, Governor Abbott placed resources on standby along the Gulf Coast in anticipation of severe weather resulting from Tropical Storm Beta.

At the direction of Governor Abbott, the Texas Division of Emergency Management is rostering and prepositioning the following resources in preparation to support requests from local officials:

- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Texas Task Forces One and Two -Type 3 Urban Search and Rescue Team and Boat Squads.
- Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): Incident Management Teams and Saw Crews.
- Texas Military Department (TMD): High Profile Vehicle Packages.
- Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) AMBUSs and Ambulance Strike Teams (AST).
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): Boat Teams and helicopters with hoist capability to support water rescue operations.
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): High Profile Vehicles (HPV).
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Texas Highway Patrol (THP): Search and Rescue (SAR) Aircraft with hoist capability and the Tactical Marine Unit (TMU).

Texans are urged to follow these flood preparedness and safety tips during severe weather events:

Know types of flood risk in your area. [Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center for information here: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home](https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Build an emergency supply kit. For more information on how to build a kit, visit: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>

Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy. Homeowner's policies do not cover flooding. It typically takes up to 30 days for a policy to go into effect so the time to buy is well before a disaster. Get flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Create password-protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Move valuables to higher levels. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves. Consider a sump pump with a battery.

Be extremely cautious of any water on roads or in creeks, streams, storm drains, or other areas – never attempt to cross flowing streams or drive across flooded roadways and always observe road barricades placed for your protection. Remember, Turn Around Don't Drown.

For more flood safety tips, [visit ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 15 – Beaumont: (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

DDC 15 is at activation level III.

Jefferson County:

City of Port Arthur submitted a disaster declaration. The mayor of Port Arthur issued a voluntary evacuation order for Sabine Pass and Pleasure Island on 9/20/20.

Beginning at 10:00 AM on Monday, 9/21/20, the City of Nederland will have sandbags available in anticipation of Tropical Storm Beta's rainfall.

DDC 16 – Houston: (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties)

DDC 16A is at activation level I.

Chambers County: Chambers County issued a disaster declaration and a voluntary evacuation for low lying and flood prone areas on September 19.

Harris County: City of Seabrook issued a voluntary evacuation on 9/19/20.

City of Nassau Bay issued a voluntary evacuation on 9/19/20.

University of Houston-Victoria in Katy will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

DDC 16 – Texas City (Includes: Brazoria and Galveston Counties)

DDC 16B is at activation level III.

Brazoria County: Brazoria County issued a disaster declaration and a voluntary evacuation order.

Alvin Community College, Brazosport ISD, Brazosport College, and Columbia-Brazoria ISD will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

Brazoria County Jury Duty is canceled for Monday, 9/21/20.

City of Clute issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

City of Freeport issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

Galveston County: Galveston County Judge issued a disaster declaration and ordered a Voluntary evacuation of the Bolivar Peninsula on 9/19/20

City of Galveston issued a voluntary evacuation of the West End and Low-Lying Areas on September 19. City of Galveston issued a disaster declaration on Monday, 9/20/20.

City of Jamaica Beach issued a voluntary evacuation on 9/19/20

TxDOT Ferry operations have been suspended at Galveston – Bolivar Peninsula due to tidal surge. Operations will resume once conditions are safe.

City of Dickinson issued a voluntary evacuation and submitted a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

City of Kemah issued a voluntary evacuation and submitted a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

College of the Mainland in Texas City will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20. Galveston ISD will be closed Monday, 9/21/20 and Tuesday, 9/22/20.

The 61st Street Fishing Pier in the City of Galveston has structural damage due to rough surf and high tide.

City of Hitchcock issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

DDC 16 – Conroe (includes Liberty, Montgomery and Walker)

Liberty County: Liberty County issued a disaster declaration and issued a voluntary evacuation order on 9/20/20.

DDC 16 – Rosenberg (Includes: Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda and Wharton Counties)

Matagorda County: Matagorda County issued a disaster declaration and a voluntary evacuation.

Bay City ISD, Tidehaven ISD, and Van Vleck ISD will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

Wharton County: Wharton ISD and Wharton County Junior College will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

DDC 20 is at activation level II.

Aransas County: Aransas County ISD will be closed Monday, 9/21/20 and Tuesday, 9/22/20.

Live Oak County: Live Oak County EOC is at activation level III.

Nueces County: Nueces County EOC is at activation level III. Padre Bali RV Park and IB McGee RV Park were evacuated.

Nueces County Issued a disaster declaration 9/20/20.

Nueces County Beaches are closed through Wednesday, 9/23/20.

City of Corpus Christi: Residents wanting to safeguard their homes and businesses from possible flooding associated with Tropical Storm Beta, can pick up free sandbags at two different locations on Saturday, September 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or until sandbags run out.

Distribution sites include Bill Witt Park, 6869 Yorktown Boulevard and the J.C. Elliott Transfer Station and Collection Center, Highway 286 and Ayers Street. Citizens will receive a maximum of ten (10) sandbags per vehicle. Drivers are asked to clear an area in the trunk of their vehicles for the sandbags. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, drivers and passengers should please wear face masks and remain inside their cars while they are being loaded.

For more information please contact the City's Call Center at 361-826-CITY (2489).

The City is restricting vehicle access to Gulf beaches due to dangerous conditions caused by Tropical Storm Beta as it approaches the Texas and Louisiana coasts. [North Beach and Flour Bluff Streets are closed.](#)

Access road closures are effective immediately and remain in effect until Wednesday, 9/23/20 at 8:00 a.m. If the water has not receded, the restriction may be extended.

Restricted vehicle access locations are Gulf beach Access Roads 2, 3, 3A, Newport, Zahn and Whitecap. The National Weather Service advises dangerous beach conditions and rip currents. Pedestrians are allowed but not encouraged. Bay beach conditions include North Beach experiencing flooding and McGee Beach will be impacted by storm surge.

Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Beach Operations crews are reporting large swells, extremely strong rip currents, and flooding of area Gulf beaches. The public is urged to take precautions by staying off area beaches to not risk injury during the storm surge. Beach closures have been coordinated with the Texas General Land Office.

The latest forecast of Tropical Storm Beta can be found at the National Weather Service Website: <https://www.weather.gov/crp/>

City of Corpus Christi EOC is at activation level III.

[The Port of Corpus Christi is at activation level II.](#)

[Refugio County: Austwell-Tivoli ISD will be closed on Monday 9/21/20.](#)

San Patricio County: San Patricio County EOC is at activation level II.

Sandbags/coordinating with Nueces County.

DDC 21 – Weslaco (Includes: Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties)

Cameron County: The City of Brownville submitted a disaster declaration and letter to the governor on 9/19/20

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

DDC 17 is at activation level II (Virtual).

[Safe Haven for other state agency's marine crafts are secured at TXDOT and Victoria County Airport.](#)

- [TXDPS TMU – TXDOT facility x5 craft](#)
- [TPW Fisheries – Airport x3 craft and 2 trailers](#)
- [TPW Game Warden – Airport x4 craft](#)
- [GLO – x1 craft, x2 gear trailers](#)

[In direct contact with TTF1 Boat Squad team leader, and are prepared to assist and find lodging locally as needed.](#)

Calhoun County: Calhoun County issued a voluntary evacuation.

City of Seadrift: The City issued a voluntary evacuation order on September 19. The City of Seadrift issued a Shelter in Place order on 9/20/20.

Calhoun County ISD will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

City of Port Lavaca issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

Jackson County: Jackson County submitted a disaster declaration and issued a voluntary evacuation order on 9/20/20.

Victoria County: Victoria County and the City of Victoria are at activation level II.

Victoria College, University of Houston-Victoria, Victoria ISD, Bloomington ISD, and Victoria Private Schools will be closed on Monday, 9/21/20.

The Texas Zoo in the City of Victoria will be closed due to flood expectations.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff continuing receive and process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as disseminating severe weather messages, preparing Snapshots and the State SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the alternate State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): TX-TF1 SAR resources have been deployed for the 20-0014 September Weather Events. Overhead Team, Urban Search and Rescue Type-3, TX-TF1, TX-TF2 SWR Boat Squads and SWR Manager






Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): The TFS currently has eight personnel committed to Tropical Storm Beta response to the Texas Division of Emergency Management. Response activities include Incident Management Team support, STAR processing, and situation reports.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD Emergency Management and Senior Leadership staff are closely monitoring Tropical Storm Beta and are prepared to support the State with TPWD personnel and resources to support a need at the State Operations Center and in the field.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS has provided a SOC Liaison to support 24-hour operations as the SOC responds to Tropical Storm Beta.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT crews are prepared to respond to any highway related issues and is standing by to help with any state agency request.

Texas Military Department (TMD): Texas Military Department has activated 167 personnel in support of September Tropical Weather response including 3x Ground Transportation Companies and 39 high Profile Vehicles (HPVs)

AMBULANCES	BOATS	BUSES	AIRCRAFT	HIGH-PROFILE
				
0	91	6	1	59

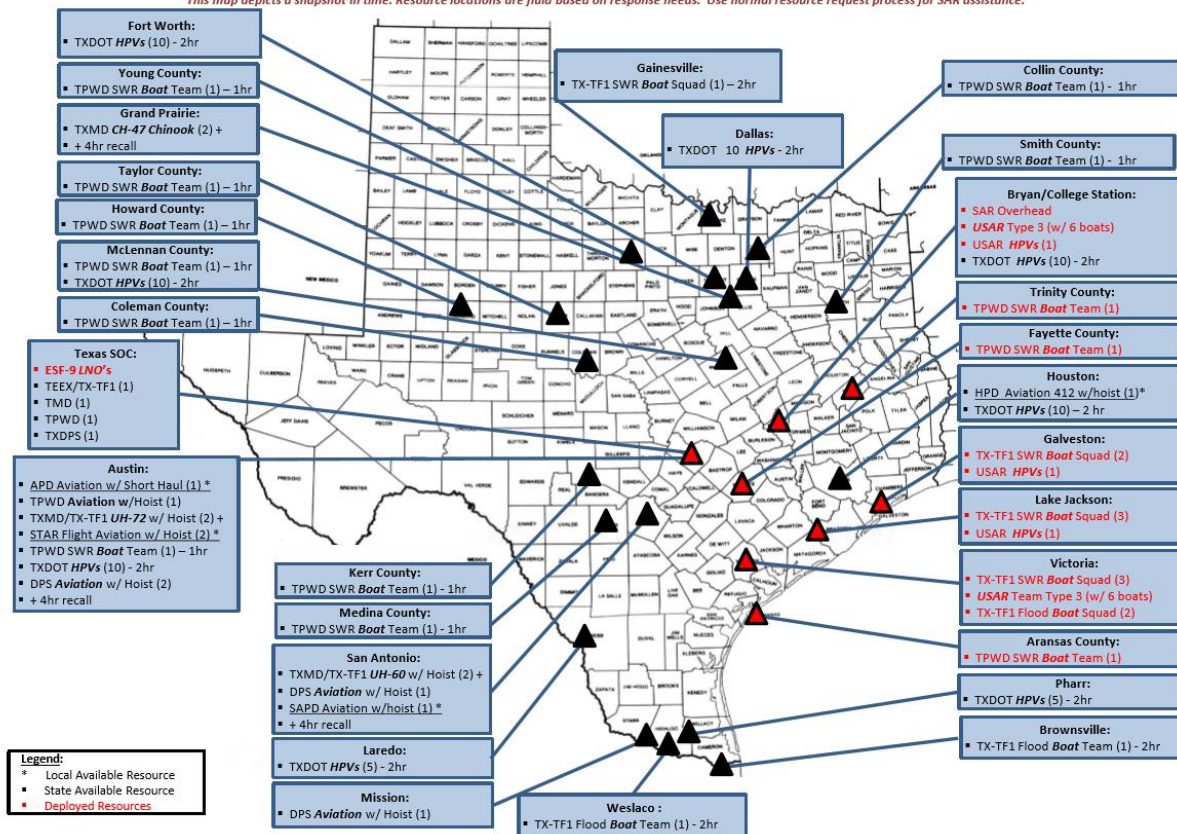
Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Austin
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Assigned	Galveston
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Assigned	Lake Jackson
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Assigned	College Station
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	18	6	Assigned	Victoria
TEEX	Flood Boat Squad	12	4	Assigned	Victoria
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	18	6	Assigned	Lake Jackson
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	12	4	Assigned	Galveston
TEEX	Type 3 Water Capable	40	6	Assigned	Victoria
TEEX	Type 3 Water Capable	40	6	Assigned	College Station
TEEX	SAR Overhead	10		Assigned	College Station
TFS	TFS/ ESF 4 Rep	3		Activated	Austin/SOC
TFS	TFS EOC Support	2		Activated	College Station
TFS	Planning Module	2		Activated	DDC 21
TPWD	Game Wardens	26	26	Activated	Galveston/Houston
TPWD	Airboats		7	Activated	Galveston/Houston
TPWD	Shallow Draft Vessels		6	Activated	Lake Livingston
TPWD	Game Wardens	43	43	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Airboats		8	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Shallow Draft Boat		6	Activated	Galveston Houston
TPWD	Swift Water Boat		1	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Swift Water Boat		1	Activated	Houston Galveston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TPWD	Rescue Helicopter	2	1	Activated	Austin
TPWD	State Park Police	12		Activates	Lake Livingston
TMD	BN Mission Command	12		Assigned	Austin
TMD	BN Mission Command	24		Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	12	4	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	12	4	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	12	4	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	30	15	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	30	15	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	30	15	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	SOC Logs Vetter	5		Assigned	Austin
DSHS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin
DSHS	SWX Package	4		Standby	
DSHS	MIST	4		Standby	
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	HPV Team	20	10	Standby	Houston
TxDOT	HPV	20	10	Standby	Bryan

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Readiness Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

SAR Resources 09-21-2020 0300 hours

This map depicts a snapshot in time. Resource locations are fluid based on response needs. Use normal resource request process for SAR assistance.



The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: <https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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